

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:)
Mark D. Erion, et al.) Group Art Unit: To be assigned
Serial No.: To be assigned 09/978,454) Examiner: To be assigned
Filed: Herewith)
For: NOVEL PRODRUGS FOR)
PHOSPHORUS-CONTAINING)
COMPOUNDS)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

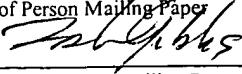
Please cancel claims 2-167.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
(37 C.F.R. §1.10)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with anything referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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J. GIBBS
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Signature of Person Mailing Paper

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fee required, or to credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. **50-1273**.

Respectfully submitted,

BROBECK, PHLEGER & HARRISON LLP

Dated: October 15, 2001

By: Lisa M. McGeehan
Lisa M. McGeehan
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LMM:jxb

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